

Lake County Coastal Plan Committee Minutes January 25, 2006

The Lake County Coastal Plan Committee hereby finds and determines that all formal actions were taken in an open meeting of the Lake County Coastal Plan Committee and that all the deliberations of the Planning Commission and its committees, if any, which resulted in formal actions, were taken in meetings open to the public in full compliance with applicable legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Chairman Harry Allen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Allen welcomed visitors Mr. Larry Klco, North Perry Village Board of Zoning Appeals, Mayor Thomas Williams, North Perry Village, Mr. Derek Elshaw, Eastlake Councilman and Mr. David Knuchel, Eastlake Councilman, to the meeting.

ATTENDANCE

The following members were present: Messrs. Allen, Advey, Balog, Buescher, Gilmer, Hilston, Klco, Kraus, Landeg, Rising, Rutledge, Sholtis, Stephenson, Urbanski, Welch, Zeitz and Mmes. Dreyfuss-Wells and Neale. Staff present: Messrs. Boyd and Webster, and Ms. Myers.

MINUTES

Two corrections were voiced on the minutes of November 30, 2005. Mr. Larry Klco is on the North Perry Village Board of Zoning Appeals and the removal of the sentence "They want to keep their beach private." in the last paragraph on page 4.

Mr. Klco moved to approve the minutes from the November 30, 2005 meeting as amended. Mr. Urbanski seconded the motion.

All voted "Aye".

LAKE COUNTY LANDSIDE COMMUNITIES MASTER PLAN

The Kent State Urban Design Center students have completed their portion of the draft for the master plan. Three staff members are now finalizing the first draft of the plan. The draft appears to be on schedule for completion by the end of January or the beginning of February, 2006.

The next step is to request the assistance of Lakeland Community College to prepare a documentary on the Plan. We will ask the local cable channels to air this program on their public access channel.

OLD BUSINESS

Project Funding

\$20,000 has been paid towards the KSU Urban Design Center study, but we are looking for \$12,000 to complete payment of the second billing of \$20,000.

Representative Cassell is still working for us to find these funds through a number of house bills and Mr. Webster is going to see if the Lake County Commissioners would be willing to front the balance to be repaid when Rep. Cassell is able to find the funding.

Community and Agency Meetings

Mr. Boyd will be discussing Fairport Harbor's prospective of their project at their next council meeting.

Mr. Gilmer invited any interested members to join the Lake County Development Council at their luncheon meeting on Friday at Dino's at noon where a Hemisphere representative will be discussing Lakeview Bluffs.

Mr. Boyd is working with Mr. Walter Siegel, Administrator of Perry Township, to get a night meeting for the trustees. He will also be speaking in Eastlake to their newly formed Economic Development Committee in February.

NEW BUSINESS

A memorandum from Mr. Allen and Mr. Boyd was presented to the Committee concerning a meeting they had with U. S. Representative Steven LaTourette, who was very supportive of our project. Five points of actions were discerned for his assistance in our planning initiative:

- Regional framework must be developed to manage/fund these projects on a long-term basis. The airport in Willoughby must be included in these discussions.
- Pilot projects with local landowners are welcomed at the Federal level as long as they depict best practices. Helping the local landowners was one of our initial goals.
- Funding cycles are a year out for federally funded projects. We would need to have a proposal in place by the end of February 2006 for 2007.
- Federally funded projects require a local match. The local match would be about 25-35%, depending on the funding source. Port authorities could also be the source of the match.
- Importance of meeting with government officials. Congressman LaTourette advised us to meet with Congressman David Hobson (Springfield), who has seniority regarding the projects funded by the Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Boyd will pursue this. Mr. Boyd is hoping to be able to attend Congressman LaTourette's annual Lake County Officials visit to D.C. and present the CPC's initiative to all of our elected officials simultaneously.

The Lake County Commissioners should be approached on the importance of a regional framework to our initiative with hopes that they would become cognizant that this is the time to seriously consider a regional port authority. We will need some direction in this development and may seek assistance from the Cleveland-Cuyahoga Port Authority. We must have an understanding of how to manage this initiative. It was decided to set up a meeting with the Cleveland-Cuyahoga Port Authority and bring a representative of each of our local port authorities.

It was determined that we needed to submit an application for funding to Rep. LaTourette by the end of February. It could take a year before acknowledgement of being accepted for funding is received and possibly eighteen months before actual funding is available.

Mr. Allen was hoping to be able to set priorities for the seven projects in our initiative, but after some discussion as to how to identify the priorities, i.e., by population, return on investment, type of community need and amount of dollars available as leverage, it was determined setting these priorities was not that urgent. Rep. LaTourette would be choosing the projects that best suited the funding opportunity at hand. The package assembled for the Representative would need specific talking points for each of the projects and an application with a broad statement regarding the regional approach and the efforts needed for this approach. The actual project sites are in Fairport Harbor, Eastlake, Madison Township, Mentor, Mentor-on-the Lake, North Perry Village, Willoughby (airport) and possibly Painesville Township.

It was suggested that a subcommittee be established to look at each of these projects and how we could potentially rank them, if needed. Each project should be looked at politically, i.e., public access and interest, economic benefit, education, water safety, regionalism, erosion, breakwall repairs, etc. What do you want to get for each community? What does the community need? They should come up with a plan of attack. Identify what communities have matching funds. Madison Township and North Perry Village have dollars in the bank right now for matching funds.

They should also earmark some pilot projects. Sometimes the small earmarks get funds.

The strength in our project is in it being a countywide effort to enhance the quality of life for the people in the County. Advocate the need for a regional port authority and subdivide all these projects. The entire plan can be done in phases. Start small and build out. Work hard to develop the entire shore. There is to be one application with seven line item projects.

It was also determined that there should not be a problem with the 25-35% local non-federal match requirement. It can be determined as the funding opportunity arrives.

At this juncture, the consensus was to have each community, agency and port authority involved in our project have a top official(s) sign a support letter and get it to Mr. Boyd as soon as possible. Ms. Dreyfuss-Wells offered to write a sample letter that will be emailed to members through the Planning Commission office.

Using the JJR, Inc. plan as a base, the request should be for \$100 million.

Community Reports

Mayor Williams stated that North Perry Village is going to continue with their project this year as planned. Although he is in support of our project, he thought the one

and only project considered should be the Fairport Harbor project. Mr. Allen reminded him that would not be a regional approach.

The Mayor continued stating that he questioned this Board's ability to override the Port Authorities. Mr. Boyd told him the backbone of the new port authority should be comprised from representation of the existing port authorities. The Coastal Committee has no power, period.

Target getting sanctioned from the Mayors and Managers Association and meeting with the Lake County Commissioners. The Association meets on the fourth Monday of the month. Mr. Boyd will follow through with the President.

Ms. Neale volunteered to provide a sample two-page white paper that could be submitted with the application for the federal funding to Rep. LaTourette.

Mr. Allen said we will continue our process by using Team NEO to get the written information and figures we want as soon as we can come up with the money. Dr. Morris Beverage of Lakeland will be integrated into our approach to create a video production of the plan.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Grand River – Canada Ferry

Articles from local papers were in the members' handout. They support the fact that it does not look as though this project will come to fruition. A ferry based in Rochester, N.Y. recently went out of business, costing the taxpayers millions of dollars for the next few years.

Fairport Harbor Lighthouse

The Coast Guard has the lighthouse in Fairport up for lease. Lake Metroparks is looking into this and is looking for partners. It was not clear what would happen if it was leased. Anyone interested could contact him. There will be a meeting Friday at 10:00 a.m. at the Historical Society.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Community point member and agencies are to get letters of support from their officials to Jason as soon as possible before the end of February.
- Ms. Dreyfuss-Wells will do a template for the support letter and it will be forwarded to everyone.
- Mr. Boyd and/or Mr. Allen are to attend the next Mayor and Managers Association meeting on the 4th Monday of February to get their sanction.
- Mr. Hilston will get a list of attendees prior to the Mayor and Managers Association meeting to Mr. Boyd.
- Mr. Boyd and Mr. Allen will be meeting with Dr. Beverage and will try to get a letter of support from him.
- Work with Lakeland Community College to create a video production of the plan.

- Establish a funding mechanism to complete the economic evaluation as discussed with Team NEO during the summer of 2005.
- Ms. Neale will provide a sample of a two-page white paper to Mr. Boyd for our application.
- Meet with local people to see what offshore barriers would actually cost today.
- Mr. Boyd will pursue setting up a meeting with Congressman David Hobson.
- Mr. Webster is to go to the Lake County Commissioners to see if they would be willing to front the balance on the KSU project of \$12,000.
- The subcommittee is to work on getting the application in order prior to the end of February.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Welch moved to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Buescher seconded the motion.

All voted “Aye”.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 22, 2005.